



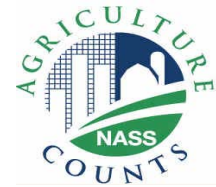
IDAHO CROP & LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS' NEWS

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC

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1-800-691-9987 • www.nass.usda.gov



August 3, 2006 FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Dear Respondent:

This issue of the Idaho Crop and Livestock Producers' News gives preliminary estimates from Idaho's 2006 Mink Production Report. Total production and number of mink are reported for selected states and the U.S.

This release is sent to survey participants in appreciation for their time spent responding to the survey. For more information contact us at nass-id@nass.usda.gov or at 1-800-691-9987. Thank you for reporting and your continued support.

Sincerely,

*William R. Meyer
Director*

Idaho Mink Production up 2.8 Percent

Mink pelt production in Idaho in 2005 totaled 173,700 pelts, up 2.8 percent from 2004. The number of pelts by color class as a percent of the total Idaho production in 2005 is as follows: Black at 39.7 percent, Mahogany at 35.5 percent, Demi/Wild at 9.2 percent, and Blue Iris at 6.6 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 9.0 percent. Female mink bred to produce kits in 2006 totaled 48,100, up 10.3 percent from the previous year. Mink pelt production in the United States in 2005 totaled 2.63 million pelts, up 3 percent from 2004. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 778,000 pelts. Utah the second largest producing State, produced 600,000 pelts. The number of pelts by color class as a percent of the total U.S. production in 2005 is as follows: Black at 47.6 percent, Mahogany at 20.9 percent, Blue Iris at 11.3 percent, Demi/Wild at 6.3 percent, Sapphire at 4.0 percent, and White at 3.8 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 6.1 percent.

Mink pelts produced during the 2005 crop year were valued at \$160 million, up 33 percent from \$120 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2005 crop year was \$60.90, up from \$47.10 in 2004. Female mink bred to produce kits in 2006 totaled 651,600, up 2 percent from the previous year. Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2006 by color class are: Black at 49.5 percent, Mahogany at 17.8 percent, Blue Iris at 11.2 percent, Demi/Wild at 6.3 percent, Sapphire at 4.1 percent and White at 4.0 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 7.1 percent. There were 277 mink farms producing pelts in 2005, down 6 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 70 farms, Wisconsin with 67 farms and Minnesota with 24. There were 21 mink farms which also raised fox in 2005, up from 17 the previous year.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms, 2005

State	Black	Demi-Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Pearl
ID	69,000	15,900			11,500	61,700	
IL	49,800						
IA	74,600				9,000		
MI							
MN	38,000	40,800		1,700	31,000	79,300	
OH	37,600			2,700		19,900	
OR	116,300			11,600	93,500	31,700	
PA	22,700			12,200	13,400		
SD							
UT	271,000	42,600			9,700	191,900	
WA	56,300				34,300		
WI	475,000		10,500	35,000	85,000	100,000	
Other States 1/	40,700	66,400	31,100	42,700	10,400	64,400	80,500
U.S.	1,251,000	165,700	41,600	105,900	297,800	548,900	80,500

1/ 'Other States' include some pelts from the above listed States which were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms, 2005 (continued)

State	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc.	Total Pelts	Number of Farms
ID					173,700	23
IL					61,700	7
IA					130,800	14
MI			11,500		55,500	7
MN				100	214,200	24
OH					66,000	8
OR					254,400	22
PA					61,000	9
SD					78,200	3
UT					600,000	70
WA					109,600	10
WI			44,500	3,300	778,000	67
Other States 1/	5,000	23,400	43,000	5,600	44,700	13
U.S.	5,000	23,400	99,000	9,000	2,627,800	277

1/ 'Other States' include some pelts from the above listed States which were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

A THANK YOU TO ALL IDAHO FARM AND RANCH OPERATORS

*Your cooperation in completing agricultural surveys from this office is greatly **APPRECIATED**. Accurate, useful estimates are vital in decision making. All estimates derived from these surveys, along with other pertinent agricultural data, are published in our regular series of releases. All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>. If you have any questions or require additional information, you may reach us toll free at 1-800-691-9987.*